

to make the right decisions for the future of our children by supporting this amendment. I thank the chair and I yield the floor.

MEDICARE COMMISSION PROVISION

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I want to thank the Senator from Iowa [Mr. HARKIN], for his efforts to include language in this appropriations bill relating to the Bipartisan Commission on the Future of Medicare. I also want to thank his colleague, the senior Senator from Iowa [Mr. GRASSLEY], who chairs the Senate Special Committee on Aging, for joining me in advocating some additional direction to the Commission with respect to long-term care. I very much enjoy working with Senator GRASSLEY on the Aging Committee, where he has continued a long tradition of bipartisanship.

Mr. President, the language added to the bill at our request touches on one aspect of an enormously important segment of health care, namely long-term care. I have been deeply involved in long-term care issues for nearly 15 years, and have advocated significant reforms to our current system both at the State and Federal level.

Mr. President, many will recall that as part of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, we created the so-called National Bipartisan Commission on the Future of Medicare. Established because of the need to reform and modernize the principal health care system of our Nation's seniors, that Commission will examine a host of issues relating to health care coverage and will make recommendations that we hope can lead to an improved Medicare system, one which will not only deliver better health care but also provide some relief from the growing pressure Medicare has been placing on our Federal budget.

One of the key issues to be examined by the Commission is the area of chronic disease and disability.

Mr. President, effective treatment of individuals with chronic health care needs requires a combination of acute and preventive care, disease management, health monitoring, and long-term care services and supports. However, as it is now structured, the Medicare fee-for-service program responds to specific and discrete episodes of care through separate providers, and often discourages timely, coordinated cost-effective chronic care.

Mr. President, more than 20 percent of Medicare beneficiaries today have chronic health care needs, and they are the fastest growing segment of the Medicare population. A major part of the health care for these beneficiaries with chronic needs are the long-term care services and supports which are separately financed by beneficiaries and their families, or, for those without personal resources, by Medicaid and the States.

This latter group of people with chronic care needs, those who are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid, help make up a particularly important

group of beneficiaries. The so-called dually eligible make up about one-sixth of the population of these two programs, but account for nearly one-third of program expenditures and rightly have captured the attention of policy makers as one of the critical targets for policy reforms in the two programs. As a recent hearing of the Aging Committee revealed, the lack of coordination between these two programs, and more generally between Medicare and long-term care, creates perverse incentives for cost-shifting in the health care system, and often results in excess cost, inappropriate care, or no care at all.

Mr. President, while the National Bipartisan Commission on the Future of Medicare is already directed to examine this critical population, our proposal goes further by specifically calling on the Commission to examine the potential for coordinating Medicare with cost-effective long-term care services.

Mr. President, I want to underscore the language we had included in the bill does not limit or even specify what the Commission might consider in reviewing the potential for coordinating Medicare with long-term care services. But there are a number of matters deserving the Commission's attention that I want to highlight, including the success of a number of States, such as Wisconsin, in developing effective long-term care programs built on flexible delivery systems that deliver more cost-effective, individualized care. The Commission should also take a particularly close look at efforts which build upon the existing system of informal supports, often provided by family members and friends, that currently account for the vast majority of long-term care provided in this country.

More generally, while the primary focus of the Commission will be the future of Medicare, as the Commission calculates the future cost of the current Medicare program, I urge it take into consideration the total costs of care for individuals with chronic illnesses and disabilities, including the cost of long-term care services and supports, whether those costs accrue to Medicare, Medicaid, private insurers, or beneficiaries and their families. It is neither good budgeting policy nor good health care policy to partition off health care service planning, making changes to one program while ignoring the effect those changes will have in other areas.

Mr. President, unlike the near-term focus of the budget process, the recommendations that we expect the Commission will make regarding Medicare will be based on a much longer and broader view. Some of the defects of the current Medicare program are arguably the result of short-term budget considerations that have led to unintended, sometimes expensive consequences. By taking a broader view, the Commission can avoid some of these past errors, and possibly contrib-

ute to one of the highest health care priorities we have, the need for significant long-term care reform.

AMENDMENT NO. 1074

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I strongly support the amendment offered by my distinguished colleague from Arizona, Senator MCCAIN. The amendment would dedicate an additional \$100 million to research on Parkinson's disease, an effort driven by my accomplished mentor and dear friend, Morris K. Udall.

The statistics are staggering. While over a million Americans battle Parkinson's at a cost of \$26 billion annually, the Federal commitment to Parkinson's research is only \$27 million. While it is not only impossible but unfair to try and determine what disease should get more funding for research while another gets less, these statistics say unequivocally that Parkinson's deserves more.

While I have many fond memories of Mo, his thirty years of unparalleled service to this country, his ever present wit and his statesmanship, one of my fondest memories is of a circumstance in which he exhibited rarely matched courage and integrity. While both in the House of Representatives, I had the honor of crusading with Mo to remove a painting from a wall in the Capitol that was both offensive and demeaning to Native Americans. That painting, that symbol of dominance, hung for years. Mo Udall took it down. He took down many such injustices during his tenure in Congress.

Parkinson's has robbed us of too many valuable people. I feel very strongly that the 64 Members of the Senate who cosponsored this bill should follow through on their initial—overwhelming—show of support and adopt the amendment.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Monday, September 8, 1997, the Federal debt stood at \$5,411,318,696,295.51. (Five trillion, four hundred eleven billion, three hundred eighteen million, six hundred ninety-six thousand, two hundred ninety-five dollars and fifty-one cents)

Ten years ago, September 8, 1987, the Federal debt stood at \$2,360,222,000,000. (Two trillion, three hundred sixty billion, two hundred twenty-two million)

Fifteen years ago, September 8, 1982, the Federal debt stood at \$1,107,230,000,000 (One trillion, one hundred seven billion, two hundred thirty million)

Twenty-five years ago, September 8, 1972, the Federal debt stood at \$435,645,000,000 (Four hundred thirty-five billion, six hundred forty-five million) which reflects a debt increase of nearly \$5 trillion—\$4,975,673,696,295.51 (Four trillion, nine hundred seventy-five billion, six hundred ninety-six thousand, two hundred ninety-five dollars and fifty-one cents) during the past 25 years.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, pursuant to section 304(b) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. sec. 1384(b)), a notice of proposed rulemaking was submitted by the Office of Compliance, U.S. Congress. The notice publishes proposed amendments to regulations previously adopted by the Board implementing sections 204, section 205, and section 215 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995.

Section 204 concerns the extension of rights and protections under the Employee Polygraph Protection Act of 1988. Section 205 applies rights and protections of the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act. Section 215 concerns the extension of rights and protections under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970.

Section 304(b) requires this notice to be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, therefore I ask unanimous consent that the notice be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the notice was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE—THE CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1995: EXTENSION OF RIGHTS AND PROTECTIONS UNDER THE EMPLOYEE POLYGRAPH PROTECTION ACT OF 1988, THE WORKER ADJUSTMENT AND RETRAINING NOTIFICATION ACT, AND THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT OF 1970
NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

Summary: The Board of Directors ("Board") of the Office of Compliance is publishing proposed amendments to its regulations implementing sections 204, 205, and 215 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 ("CAA" or the "Act"), 2 U.S.C. §§1314, 1315, 1341. The CAA applies the rights and protections of eleven labor and employment and public access laws to covered employees and employing offices within the Legislative Branch. Section 204 applies rights and protections of the Employee Polygraph Protection Act of 1988 ("EPPA"), section 205 applies rights and protections of the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act ("WARN Act"), and section 215 applies rights and protections of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 ("OSHA Act"). These sections of the CAA will go into effect with respect to the General Accounting Office ("GAO") and the Library of Congress (the "Library") on December 30, 1997, and this Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("NPRM") proposes to amend the Board's regulations implementing these sections to extend the coverage of the regulations to include GAO and the Library. Several typographical and other minor corrections and changes are also being made to the regulations being amended.

The regulations under sections 204, 205, and 215 were adopted in three virtually identical versions, one that applies to the Senate and employees of the Senate, one that applies to the House of Representatives and employees of the House, and one that applies to other covered employees and employing offices. This NPRM proposes that identical amendments be made to the three versions of the regulations. The proposal to amend the regulations that apply to the Senate and its employees is the recommendation of the Office of Compliance's Deputy Executive Director for the Senate, the proposal to amend the regulations that apply to the House and its employees is the recommendation of the Office of Compliance's Deputy Executive Director for the House of Representatives, and the proposal to amend the regulations that apply to other employing offices and their employees is the recommendation of the Executive Director of the Office of Compliance.

Dates: Comments are due within 30 days after the date of publication of this NPRM in the Congressional Record.

Addresses: Submit comments in writing (an original and 10 copies) to the Chair of the Board of Directors, Office of Compliance, Room LA 200, John Adams Building, 110 Second Street, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20540-1999. Those wishing to receive notification of receipt of comments are requested to include a self-addressed, stamped post card. Comments may also be transmitted by facsimile ("FAX") machine to (202) 426-1913. This is not a toll-free call. Copies of comments submitted by the public will be available for review at the Law Library Reading Room, Room LM-201, Law Library of Congress, James Madison Memorial Building, Washington, D.C., Monday through Friday, between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

For further information contact: Executive Director, Office of Compliance, at (202) 724-9250 (voice), (202) 426-1912 (TTY). This Notice is also available in the following formats: large print and braille. Requests for this notice in large print or braille should be made to Mr. Russell Jackson, Director, Services Department, Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate, at (202) 224-2705 (voice), (202) 224-5574 (TTY).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

1. Background and purpose of this rulemaking

The Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 ("CAA" or the "Act"), Pub. L. 104-1, 109 Stat. 3, 2 U.S.C. §§1301-1438, was enacted on January 23, 1995. The CAA applies the rights and protections of eleven labor and employment and public access laws to covered employees and employing offices within the Legislative Branch.

Sections 204, 205, and 215 apply three of these laws. Section 204 of the CAA, 2 U.S.C. §1314, applies the rights and protections under the Employee Polygraph Protection Act of 1988 ("EPPA"), by providing generally that no employing office may require a covered employee to take a lie detector test where such a test would be prohibited if required by an employer under paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of section 3 of the EPPA, 29 U.S.C. §2002(1), (2), (3). Section 205 of the CAA, 2 U.S.C. §1315, applies the rights and protections of the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act ("WARN Act"), by providing generally that no employing office shall be closed or a mass layoff ordered within the meaning of section 3 of the WARN Act, 29 U.S.C. §2102, until 60 days after the employing office has provided written notice to covered employees. Section 215 of the CAA, 2 U.S.C. §1341, applies the rights and protections of section 5 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 ("OSHA Act"), by providing generally that each employing office and each covered employee must com-

ply with the provisions of section 5 of the OSHA Act, 29 U.S.C. §654.

For most covered employees and employing offices, sections 204 and 205 became effective on January 23, 1996, and section 215 became effective on January 1, 1997. However, "with respect to the General Accounting Office and the Library of Congress," the CAA provides that sections 204, 205, and 215 "shall be effective . . . 1 year after transmission to the Congress of the study under section 230." Sections 204(d)(2), 205(d)(2), 215(g)(2) of the CAA, 2 U.S.C. §§1314(d)(2), 1315(d)(2), 1341(g)(2). This "study under section 230" is a study of the application of certain laws, regulations, and procedures at the General Accounting Office ("GAO"), the Government Printing Office ("GPO"), and the Library of Congress ("Library"), which the Board was directed to undertake by section 230 of the CAA, as amended, 2 U.S.C. §1371. The Board transmitted the completed study to Congress on December 30, 1996, and sections 204, 205, and 215 will therefore become effective with respect to GAO and the Library on December 30, 1997.¹

The CAA requires that the Board adopt regulations to implement sections 204, 205, and 215, and further requires that these regulations be the same as the substantive regulations promulgated by the Secretary of Labor to implement the provisions of applicable statute, except if the Board determines, for good cause shown, that a modification would be more effective for the implementation of the rights and protections under these sections. 2 U.S.C. §§1314(c), 1315(c), 1341(d). The Board has adopted regulations implementing these sections with respect to employing offices other than GAO and the Library, and the purpose of this rulemaking is to adopt regulations implementing these sections with respect to GAO and the Library as well.

2. Record of earlier rulemakings

To avoid duplication of effort in proposing and adopting regulations with respect to GAO and the Library, the Board plans to rely, in part, on the record of its earlier rulemakings. The regulations implementing sections 204 and 205 of the CAA were proposed, adopted, and issued during the latter part of 1995 and the first part of 1996, and, during that period, the Board solicited comment and explained the basis and purpose of the regulations in several notices published in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. On September 28, 1995, the Board published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("ANPRM"), in which the Board solicited comments before promulgating proposed rules under several sections of the CAA, including sections 204 and 205. 141 CONG. REC. S14542-44 (daily ed. Sept. 28, 1995). On November 28, 1995, the Board issued NPRMs proposing regulations under sections 204 and 205, among others. 141 CONG. REC. S17652-64 (daily ed. Nov. 28, 1995), and on January 22, 1996, the Board published Notices of Adoption of Regulation and Submission for Approval and Issuance of Interim Regulations under these sections, 142 CONG. REC. S262-74 (daily ed. Jan. 22, 1996). The Board also proposed and adopted separate regulations, pursuant to section 204(a)(3) of the CAA, authorizing the Capitol Police to use lie detector tests. 141 CONG. REC. S14544-45 (daily ed. Sept. 28, 1995) (NPRM); 142 CONG. REC. S260-62 (daily ed. Jan. 22, 1996) (Notice

¹The study under section 230, as well as copies of the December 30, 1996 letters from the Board transmitting the study to Congress, are available for inspection in the Law Library Reading Room, at the address and times stated at the beginning of this Notice. The study may also be viewed on the Office of Compliance's Internet web site at either <http://www.compliance.gov/230.html> or <http://www.access.gpo.gov/compliance/230.html>.